DOES CHRISTIAN SCIENCE STAND for LIFE or DEATH?

It's so hard to tell!

The Receipts Are So Contradictory!

"People Sometimes Do some pretty odd things. And in many cases, if you raise an eyebrow too high or voice an objection, you're liable to be accused of taking things toooo seriously."

- Richard C. Bergenheim, Betting on Death?, Christian Science Sentinel, October 26, 1998

"Thank you for making sure any time I told you that I was having issues with your cold demeanor to me, that I should look at life from your point of view. Because mine didn't matter. Only your feelings and your emotions matter. I had forgotten that valuable lesson. I guess standing up for myself hurt your feelings."

—The Ex-Christian Scientist, Dear Christian Science Teacher, https://exchristianscience.com/2018/05/27/dear-christian-science-teacher/

"Predicting death, betting on death, anxiously waiting and wanting to benefit from someone's death—these are forms of moral murder. ... Before people know it, they are starting to wish that someone will die. You can't get much more unchristian than that."

- Richard C. Bergenheim, Betting on Death?, Christian Science Sentinel, October 26, 1998

"My mother also once told me that it was our fault that my father died because we let him out of our 'experience.' My passive father had waited for my mother's permission to seek treatment for his throat cancer, but by then it was too late. She said that my father had just gone on and he didn't know he had died and he still had all of us, but we had let him go."

— Sharon at The Ex-Christian Scientist, 'It was our fault that my father died because we let him out of our 'experience,' https://exchristianscience.com/2015/12/09/it-was-our-fault-that-my-father-died-because-we-let-him-out-of-our-experience/

"Suzanne Shepard is another waking nightmare for the [Christian Science] Church. ... Marilyn, lapse into a coma, and asked herself if she wanted "to be a good Christian Scientist and not have a daughter, or be a bad Christian Scientist and have a daughter." ... In the hospital Shepard called her [Christian Science] practitioner ... he refused [to pray for Marilyn], telling her to "take Marilyn home [from the hospital], because it was better that she die." Shepard says, "He said that if she lived, ... she would not be able to understand Christian Science.""

— Caroline Fraser, Suffering Children and the Christian Science Church, The Atlantic Monthly, April 1995, https://web.archive.org/web/20040229005840/http://www.theatlantic.com/unbound/flashbks/xsci/suffer.htm (via the Wayback Machine)

"If man believes in death now, he must disbelieve in it when learning that there is no reality in death, since the truth of being is deathless. The belief that existence is contingent on matter must be met and mastered by Science, before Life can be understood and harmony obtained."

(Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, Mary Baker Eddy, p. 427:7)

"A year ago I started an Master in Fine Arts program in creative writing. I'd left Christian Science officially two years before. My first workshopped article was a piece I had written on all the wonderful strangers who had helped me with car trouble. The piece was meant to be inspirational and uplifting. It had a very happy ending. I did mention in the piece that my father had died and I felt lost when it came to taking care of my car because he had been a mechanic and always looked out for me in this way. I was twenty-five when he died a grisly death of untreated colon cancer under Christian Science care. When I was having my piece workshopped the teacher asked me why I felt it was necessary to have a happy ending. He told me I was completely wrapped up in magical thinking and that I needed to dig deeper … My father's death was three decades past, which added to my shock about this teacher's statement. It was a very uncomfortable discussion for me because I had shut Dad off after he died, always believing I had no right to mourn because my father had just 'passed away' and nothing had really happened to him, according to my religion."

- Anonymous at The Ex-Christian Scientist, I felt I had no right to mourn because my father had just 'passed away,' https://exchristianscience.com/2015/05/24/i-felt-i-had-no-right-to-mourn-because-my-father-had-just-passed-away/

"Death is but another phase of the dream that existence can be material. Nothing can interfere with the harmony of being nor end the existence of man in [Christian] Science. … If man is never to overcome death, why do the Scriptures say, "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death"?"

(Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, Mary Baker Eddy, p. 427:13–16, 17–19)